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October 20, 2011

To: Vascular Surgeons

From: Derrick Latos, MD

Regarding: ESRD Network Reports

Date: October 20, 2011

I am enclosing a template of a new report that will soon be distributed to each surgeon involved in hemodialysis vascular access surgery. This data has been compiled from CMS billing data and is part of the national Fistula First Initiative. I realize this information is not current, since it relates to 2007 and 2009 experience; work is underway to create a more current reporting system.

This is designed to provide feedback to physicians placing vascular access. **YOUR INDIVIDUAL DATA WILL NOT BE RELEASED TO ANYONE ELSE. HOWEVER, I AM REQUESTING THAT WHEN YOU RECEIVE YOUR REPORT, THAT YOU SEND A COPY TO ME OR TO TAMI SMITH, RN, CNN, the WRC Vascular Access Coordinator.**

We will compile the data, keeping everything confidential, and will share aggregate data with each of you, so we can get a better handle on our overall performance. We really appreciate your cooperation and assistance in helping to take care of our dialysis patients. The goal for AVF remains 66%, so we have work to do. More importantly, we must do all we can to get the percentage of patients with catheters at 90 days to **LESS THAN 10%**.

Hopefully some of you may be able to participate in the ESRD Network-sponsored vascular access meeting in Atlanta on December 2; we have sent information about this to each of you, so if you have not received it, please let me know.